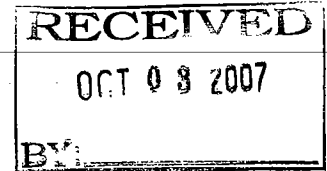




L006

September 28, 2007

Mehdi Morshed
Executive Director
California High-Speed Rail Authority
925 L Street, Suite 1425
Sacramento, CA 95814



RE: City of Livermore Comments
Draft Bay Area to Central Valley High Speed Train (HST) Program Environmental
Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS)

Dear Mr. Morshed:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Bay Area to Central Valley High Speed Train (HST) Program Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS). The City of Livermore endorses and encourages the proposal of high speed rail as a regional and statewide transportation option.

L006-1

Because portions of the Altamont Pass option are being proposed through existing urban areas of Livermore, the City acknowledges its role as a responsible and coordinating agency on this significant infrastructure project, both in assessing environmental issues and impacts related to the project, as well as during the design and implementation stage of the project. As a responsible agency, Livermore has been a participating member of the Tri-Valley technical and policy groups that have worked closely with both the high speed and regional rail planning teams.

L006-2

The City acknowledges that at this stage of review, specific design details for many aspects of the proposed alignment are not yet finalized and the EIR/EIS analyzes more broadly potential impacts based on the level of information that is currently available. Because exact locations and design details for various facilities are not included in this Draft EIR/EIS, the City of Livermore wishes to note that additional environmental review may be warranted or required for those facilities within City limits. Of particular concern to Livermore is the need to identify specific right-of-way acquisitions, and/or proposals for aerial structures. Because of the potentially significant impacts associated with these issues, the City supports continued study of the "Hybrid" alternative, which we understand minimizes these impacts while maintaining options for high speed service through the Altamont Pass.

L006-3

L006-4

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on the Draft EIR/EIS. We welcome and support the continuation of further studies for this project. City staff is available to answer any questions or clarify any of the comments that have been provided to you if needed.

L006-5

Mehdi Morshed

Page 2

September 28, 2007

Please contact Crystal DeCastro, Assistant Planner, at (925) 960-4450 with any questions regarding the above comments or attached comments or any other assistance we can provide.

L006-5
Cont.

Sincerely,



Susan Frost
Principal Planner

Attachments: 1. City of Livermore Draft EIR/EIS Comments

cc: Marc Roberts, Community Development Director
Cheri Sheets, City Engineer
Bob Vinn, Asst. City Engineer
Ken Ross, Senior Civil Engineer

Draft Bay Area to Central Valley High Speed Train (HST) Program Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS)

City of Livermore Comments

General Comments

- | | |
|--|--------|
| ○ All references to City's General Plan should be dated 2003 (p 3.7-36). | L006-6 |
| ○ Additional environmental review may be required by the City of Livermore to determine potential visual, land use, noise, and aesthetic impacts, once the exact location of these areas is known. | L006-7 |
| ○ Additional studies describing the effectiveness of attracting ridership. | L006-8 |

Section 3.1 – Traffic, Transit, Circulation, and Parking

• Page 3.1-34, 35

Livermore I-580, Downtown, and Greenville I-580. Each paragraph indicates an increase parking demand would range from 6,900 to 9,100 spaces. It is suggested additional environmental review be required, once specific details of the project are known during the design phase to determine approximate parking spaces needed to determine impacts.

L006-9

Section 3.4 – Noise and Vibration

Since exact details of the location and amount of noise that will be generated by the temporary construction and permanent facility are not known at this time, please be aware that the City of Livermore may require additional environmental review of this particular project at the design phase and prior to construction to determine potential impacts to surrounding area.

Section 3.7 – Land Use and Planning, Communities and Neighborhoods, Property, and Environmental Justice

Please note that additional environmental review may be necessary to determine any new impacts, based on a finalized alignment and design, as well as consistency with Livermore General Plan and land use compatibility.

Section 3.9 – Aesthetics and Visual Resources

Please note that additional environmental review may be necessary to determine any new impacts, based on a finalized alignment and design, as well as consistency with Livermore General Plan Visual Resources and Scenic Corridor policies.